

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-05 INRE-00 OMB-01 EB-03 TRSE-00 IGA-01

SSO-00 SP-02 /042 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 034153

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: FINANCING OF AIR DEFENSE PACKAGE

REF: STATE 21973

1. PURSUANT TO OUR PROMISE (PARA 8 REFTTEL) TO KEEP YOU REGULARLY INFORMED RE INCREASE IN ESTIMATED TERMINATION COSTS AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS CONNECTED WITH FINANCING OF JORDANIAN AIR DEFENSE PACKAGE, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT ARMY HAS ISSUED LETTER ORDER CONTRACTS FOR GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING SIMULATORS AMOUNTING TO DOLS 155.3 MILLION. NO RPT NO FURTHER CONTRACTS ARE BEING LET PENDING RECEIPT OF NECESSARY FUNDING FROM GOJ PRIOR TO FEB. 29 DEADLINE. THIS SITUATION WILL INEVITABLY RESULT IN SOME

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COST INCREASES AND SLIPPAGE IN DELIVERY SCHEDULES, AND THESE

ARE LIKELY TO BECOME MORE EXTENSIVE AS DELAY IN JORDAN'S DEPOSIT OF PAYMENTS DUE CONTINUES. AN ADDITIONAL DOLS 98 MILLION IN PRODUCTION CONTRACTS COULD BE LET IN FEBRUARY IF FUNDS ARE RECEIVED.

2. AS YOU ARE IN BEST POSITION TO GAUGE JORDANIAN SENSITIVITIES AND LIKELY REACTION, WE DEFER TO YOUR JUDGMENT AS TO WHEN AND HOW TO BRING FACTS CONTAINED IN THIS CABLE TO GOJ'S ATTENTION. IN ANY EVENT, WE TRUST YOU WILL LEAVE THEM

UNDER NO ILLUSION THAT FURTHER EXTENSION OF FEB. 29 DEADLINE WOULD BE CONSIDERED OR GRANTED. THERE IS NO RPT NO REALISTIC POSSIBILITY THAT THIS COULD BE DONE, GIVEN COMPELLING CONSIDERATIONS OUTLINED PARA 3 REFTEL. REGRETTABLY, THERE IS INSTEAD EVERY LIKELIHOOD THAT IF MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF DOLS 74 MILLION IS NOT RECEIVED BY FEB. 29, EXISTING CONTRACTS WITH MANUFACTURERS WOULD HAVE TO BE TERMINATED AND GOJ WOULD BE LIABLE FOR RESULTANT TERMINATION COSTS. TERMINATION COSTS ARE NOW ESTIMATED AT DOLS 12 MILLION IF EXISTING CONTRACTS SHOULD HAVE TO BE CANCELLED ON MARCH 1. INGERSOLL

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